

IN THE ABSTRACT:

Please replace the original Abstract with the following amended Abstract (a clean copy appears at page 3):

--A data communication apparatus ~~is provided that includes a data communication unit and a control unit.~~ The data communication unit sends image data selected by a user to a printer via a serial bus, the image data ~~selected by the user~~ being sent from the data communication [[unit]] apparatus in response to entering a send instruction into the data communication apparatus. The ~~control unit~~ data communication apparatus (a) inhibits, invalidates or ignores a predetermined user instruction while ~~the data communication apparatus sends~~ the image data ~~selected by the user is being sent~~ to the printer and while the image data is being printed by the printer; and (b) ~~stops inhibiting, invalidating or ignoring the predetermined user instruction in response to receiving notice from the printer that the image data selected by the user is printed;~~ and (c) stops inhibiting, invalidating or ignoring the predetermined user instruction in response to disconnecting the data communication apparatus from the serial bus, while the image data is being sent to the printer and while the image data is being printed by the printer.--

--A data communication apparatus sends image data selected by a user to a printer via a serial bus, the image data being sent from the data communication apparatus in response to entering a send instruction into the data communication apparatus. The data communication apparatus (a) inhibits, invalidates or ignores a predetermined user instruction while the image data is being sent to the printer and while the image data is being printed by the printer; and (b) stops inhibiting, invalidating or ignoring the predetermined user instruction in response to disconnecting the data communication apparatus from the serial bus, while the image data is being sent to the printer and while the image data is being printed by the printer.--